

CONFIDENTIAL

24 January 1958

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

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SUBJECT: Electric Digger

1. On 21 January 1958 the undersigned visited [redacted] to witness a demonstration of the electric trench digger.

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2. Work is essentially complete on the project which includes a Volkswagen automobile equipped with a special generator to power a $2\frac{1}{2}$ hp motor on the digging machine. In frozen ground and at 18 inches depth rates are only 3 ft/min., however, a slight modification of the chain should increase this rate. Operation of the unit is quite simple and foolproof.

3. The Volkswagen idles at 1200 rpm which shouldn't attract undue attention. There is a high pitched whine associated with the digger which comes from both the motor and digging chain. It is not known at this time how objectionable this noise will be. Built into the spare-tire compartment is a reel of 250 ft. of No. 10 cable. The wire can be reeled in and out with little effort.

4. The program will be brought to a conclusion with the remaining funds. This will include a final report, further testing and a few minor changes. Within the next month or two, the unit will be driven to Washington for demonstration and storage.

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